

Getting the Most of your Fun Activities

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Useful Sites

TEFL Games

<http://www.teflgames.com/why.html>

The Internet TESL Journal

<http://iteslj.org/games/>

English Teaching FORUM

<http://exchanges.state.gov/forum/vols/vol36/no1/p20.htm>

<http://exchanges.state.gov/forum/vols/vol35/no4/p42.htm>

Dave's ESL Café

<http://www.eslcafe.com/idea/index.cgi?Games>

Games in the ESL and EFL Class

<http://iteslj.org/Techniques/Deesri-Games.html>

Six Games for the ESL/EFL Classroom

<http://iteslj.org/Lessons/Ersoz-Games.html>

References

Wright, A. and Ur, P (1992). Five-Minute Activities: A Resource Book of Short Activities. Cambridge University Press
Emmerson, P. and Hamilton, N. (2005). Five-Minute Activities for Business English. Cambridge University Press
Kealey, J. and Inness, D. (2002). Shenanigames – Grammar-Focused Interactive ESL/EFL Activities and Games. Pro Lingua Associates

Sample Activities

(1) Wall Dictation or Running Dictation

Type a list of sentences or a paragraph on a sheet of paper; place it somewhere on the wall in the classroom (or outside). Put your learners into pairs or groups; make sure students have paper and pens. Students decide who will be the first “runner”.

One person from each team will run to the paper, look at the first sentence, and memorize it. Runners return to partner/group and whisper the sentence to the others who write it down. Runners must also write sentences down if this

is done in groups. The next runner repeats this process, which continues until all sentences have been transferred from ‘the wall’ to learners’ papers.

Rules:

- First to finish will receive a prize (optional); sentences must be accurate
- Person running cannot dictate from the wall
- Sentences must be written down in the same order as displayed on the wall
- Accuracy is important; spelling and punctuation must be correct
- Learners cannot take paper and pen to the wall and copy
- Cheaters will be disqualified
- Be careful when running!

(2) Active Listening

Instructions:

- Distribute listening “cue cards” to students
- Read the selected passage (or play recording)
- Students must stand up and sit down promptly holding “cue cards” every time the word on their card is mentioned in the reading (or listening)

Cue Words: Doctor(s); Nurse(s); Hospital; Patient(s); Said

Sample Reading

At the **hospital** near where I live, all the **doctors** are women, and all the **nurses** are men. Every time new **patients** arrive at the **hospital**, they always call the **doctors nurses** and the **nurses doctors**. One day at the **hospital**, a **doctor** was talking to a **patient**, a man, and the **patient said**, “Excuse me, **nurse**, when can I see the **doctor**?” “Listen”, **said** the **doctor**. “I’m not a **nurse**; I’m a **doctor**. And the man you think is a **doctor** is a **nurse**.” “Oh...sorry”, **said** the **patient**. “I thought the **doctor**, I mean the **nurse**, I thought the **nurse said** you were a **nurse**.” “Well, I’m not”, **said** the **doctor**. “I’m a **doctor**, not a **nurse**”. “Well, once again, sorry about that”, **said** the **patient**. “By the way, what’s your name?” “**Nurse**”, **said** the **doctor**. “**Doctor Nurse**.”